

Editorial: CJEAP Issue 182

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Welcome to a new chapter in the history of the scholarly dissemination of the Canadian knowledge base of educational administration!

It is with great pleasure, gratitude and a sense of nostalgia that we write as co-editors of what has become the progeny of two illustrious Canadian journals, the *Journal of Educational Administration and Foundations (JEAF)*, and the *Canadian Journal of Educational Administration and Policy (CJEAP)*. Canadian scholars of educational administration owe much of their publication history to colleagues at the University of Manitoba who legitimated Canadian perspectives by spearheading *JEAF* in 1986, and *CJEAP* in 1995. These scholars recognized the need for publication outlets that privileged our national context, and that highlighted innovative research, policy and practice that became the foundation of educational administration programs across our country.

JEAF was born out of the efforts of Dr. Dianne Common and Dr. Anne Jefferson, and was initially housed at the University of Manitoba from 1986-1989. Over time, editorial responsibilities for *JEAF* shifted to a number of universities: Lakehead University (Dr. Anne Jefferson, 1990-1991); University of Victoria (Yvonne Martin, 1992-1995); University of Regina (Dr. Rod Dolmage, Doug Stewart, & Barbara Gregory, 1996-2001); University of Saskatchewan (Dr. Murray Scharf, 2001-2002); University of Western Ontario and University of Alberta (Dr. Robert MacMillan & Dr. Janice Wallace, 2003-2008); University of Alberta (Dr. Janice Wallace, 2008-2012); University of Saskatchewan (Dr. Sheila Carr-Stewart & Dr. David Burgess, 2013; Dr. Paul Newton & Dr. Bonnie Stelmach, 2014). *JEAF* was devoted to scholarly and critical works in the fields of educational administration, the philosophy of education, the sociology of education, the history of education, comparative education, and contemporary issues in education. The inception of the journal took place at a time when departments of Educational Administration and Educational Foundations were beginning to amalgamate across Canada, often being renamed as departments of Educational Leadership or Educational Policy Studies. As a consequence, *JEAF* played an integral role in bringing together scholars in inter- and cross-disciplinary contexts, and its uniqueness lay in fostering work that integrated two or more areas of study.

In searching for the editorial history of *JEAF* (and literally scouring the offices of the Department of Educational Administration!), what became clear is that the shifts in editorial responsibilities for *JEAF* often occurred as people moved into new positions or institutions, and they simply could not keep up with the heavy responsibilities of journal editing. What also became clear, however, is that each new editor or editorial team “picked up” the journal out of a collective sense of responsibility for Canadian scholarship, and a strong belief in the value of *JEAF*’s purpose. We were able to speak with some of the past editors who regaled us with fascinating stories of individuals who were “movers and shakers” in educational administration, many of whom are now retired or deceased. It also reminded us of our relationships with some of those individuals, and how much has changed over the past three decades. We believe there is a complex and fascinating research study attached to the movement of this journal that resonates with shifts in the knowledge base, and workforce, of scholars of educational administration.

In 1994-1995, Dr. Tony Riffel and Dr. Ben Levin made a presentation to the Canadian Association for the Study of Educational Administration (CASEA) advocating for the creation of an online journal affiliated with CASEA. Unfortunately, the association was not able to support the kind of commitment that was necessary for an online journal at that time. The internet was relatively new, and online efforts required extensive support. Instead of abandoning the idea, *CJEAP* was created in 1995 at the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba, and has ever since been under the editorship of scholars at that institution, including Dr. Tony Riffel (1995-1997), Dr. Rosemary Foster (1999-2001), Dr. Kelvin Seifert (2002-2009), and Dr. Jon Young (2010-2016). *CJEAP* published work that addressed administrative or policy issues related to education and educational systems in Canada, including comparative education perspectives. It gained a solid reputation in the Canadian educational administration scholarly community because of the quality of its publications, its Canadian focus, its consistency of publication, and its breadth of articles that focused on policy, practice and research. The journal has always been open to publishing the work of graduate students, practitioners, and scholars, and the lists of authors in the archived sections makes one feel like one has just had a visit with the CASEA membership.

Many CASEA members started their publishing careers by having an article published in *CJEAP* or *JEAF*. Over the years, periodic conversations have been held amongst Canadian scholars about affiliating *JEAF* and *CJEAP* with CASEA. It was also thought that the scholarly community in Canada would benefit from one reputable and well-resourced journal with a stable publication record. As a consequence, the editorial teams of *JEAF* and *CJEAP* met in 2016 to discuss the possibility of moving *CJEAP* from the University of Manitoba to the University of Saskatchewan Department of Educational Administration. The timing was important, particularly because Dr. Young was about to retire from the University of Manitoba, and resources were available at the University of Saskatchewan to support a journal with a focus on educational administration.

At the 2016 CASEA annual general meeting held at the University of Calgary, a motion was passed to merge the two journals and to adopt *CJEAP* as the official journal of CASEA. The scope and mandate of *CJEAP* was expanded to encompass the theoretical and conceptual work that was the hallmark of *JEAF*.

The transition to the University of Saskatchewan focused on updating the design and delivery of the journal by migrating *CJEAP* to Open Journal Systems (OJS); strengthening the peer review process, and; broadening the governance structure of the journal to include a formal governance relationship with CASEA. As a result, we have successfully moved *CJEAP* to an online journal system and are fully automated in all aspects of the editorial process. In addition, we have constituted an editorial board comprised of leading Canadian and international scholars in educational administration and a management board recommended by the CASEA executive. Thank you to all of those who have agreed to serve *CJEAP* in those capacities, as your expertise and support will be invaluable to our future direction.

There are many people and organizations to thank for their assistance during this transition. First of all, we would like to thank the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Michelle Prytula, for agreeing to host and resource *CJEAP*. As well, the University of Manitoba Educational Administration Area Group has stewarded the journal since its inception and supported us in a smooth transition from the University of Manitoba. In particular, Dr. Jon Young and Mr. Gordon Marce have been incredibly helpful in working with us and with authors to transition articles from the old site into the new system. We would like to thank the journal staff at the University of Saskatchewan for their patience with us as we work our way through understanding the OJS. The work of copyeditor Erin Magee, layout

editor Joshua Scott, and journal manager Charlene Robertson has been exemplary over this slightly chaotic time.

Finally, we owe a great debt to Dr. Jonathan Young. As we are finding out, being a journal editor is time consuming and unrelenting work. Jon's dedication has resulted in a vibrant and viable scholarly outlet for scholars and students of educational administration in Canada. We are going to have our work cut out for us as we humbly try to fill his shoes. Fortunately, we will continue to benefit from his expertise, as we have appointed Dr. Young editor emeritus and a permanent member of the management board and editorial board of *CJEAP*. We couldn't let him get away without some sort of strings attached!

The Canadian knowledge base of educational administration has been alive and well since the University of Alberta began its first graduate program in 1958. Another moment in time that is well established in the collective memory of scholars of educational administration in Canada occurred in 1974, when Thomas Greenfield turned the knowledge base on its head with his critique of the theory movement and its emphasis on positivism. Subsequent to this "unsettling" of the field, debate has raged within CASEA's scholarly community about the extent to which the "centre" of educational administration exists, or whether it has shifted, blurred, or moved outside of the margins. The merging of *JEAF* and *CJEAP* with an affiliation with CASEA provides a new "centre" for educational administration in Canada whose purpose will be to ensure that our scholarly debates continue. We also hope that our efforts will help Canadian scholars become cognizant of our scholarly "ancestry" that ties our collective history, and our national knowledge base, together, while also celebrating distinct, and diverse, perspectives.

We are excited about the future of *CJEAP*, though we mourn the formal loss of *JEAF* as a second outlet for Canadian educational administration. The formalized relationship with CASEA, the new journal platform, and the support we have from our colleagues across the country give us cause for great optimism. We intend to do our best to carry on the legacy of *CJEAP*, while exploring new directions and innovations. The first *CJEAP* annual review of books is one example of a new initiative for *CJEAP*. We would like to thank Dr. Augusto Rivas for serving as book review editor and editor, and to all who agreed to serve as reviewers for this new/old journal issue.

In closing, we want to acknowledge all of our colleagues and their editorial support teams, past and present, who have thought, as we do, that the knowledge base of Canadian educational administration is worthy of the time and energy it takes to create a distinct journal for publishing our work. None of us gain as individual scholars without an entire infrastructure of people who work in service to our discipline, and to each other. It is this collective energy that we hope to harness for exciting new ventures as *CJEAP* co-editors over the next few years.